

Burrillville

Recreation Commission

RE: Minutes, October 20, 2008

Present: Cheri Hall, Director Al Low

Kurt Schatz, Chair Dave Marcotte

Al Gerew, Vice Chair Juliette Lopez-Recinos

Alice Lavigne, Secretary

Mike Karmozyn, Town Council Liaison

Absent: L. Kevin McDonald

Excused: -----

Guests: Sue Sgambatto, Lynn Clark, and Jeremy Meville of Relay for Life.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Kurt Schatz, Chair, at the Burrillville Parks and Recreation Offices, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, R.I.

Motion to accept minutes of September 8, 2008 regular meeting by Juliette Lopez-Recinos. Seconded by Alice Lavigne. David Marcotte made the correction that under “Excused” should have Kurt Schatz.

Motion to accept minutes of September 8, 2008 with correction by David Marcotte. Seconded by Juliette Lopez-Recinos. Motion passed 5-0.

Correspondence:

The Director received a thank you from Elaine Speizio for a brunch held in her honor. Elaine ran our Senior Fitness program for over the past 11 years. She has moved to Cape Cod and is running the same type programming.

Good & Welfare:

The Director reported her attendance at the National Recreation and Parks Association Conference in Baltimore from October 14th to 17th with 8,400 people in attendance, over 400 sessions and over 700 vendors. The conference was very informative. Two of the sessions the Director attended were about “Seniors gone Wild” including trips and other senior activities. The department will be offering future senior programs.

On October 10, 2008 the Director attended a workshop on Shape Up Rhode Island at Bryant College per the Town Manager’s request. This is a health and wellness program which tries to get as many people involved for the January 2009 scheduled start. The Director requested from the Town Manager that the town pay for the town employees to participate. This was justified by the fact that the healthier the employees become the less likely they would to utilize

sick time, doctor visits and would improve mental attitude. The Director at the workshop reported that currently five communities pay for their employees. Burrillville Extended Care employees could be paid by Burrillville Extended Care. The cost would be \$20 per participating employee. Depending on the number of town employee participants, the other possibility might be for the cost to be paid 50% by the town and 50% by the employee. This program is sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield and would fall into the MuniBlue program. This would have to be approved by the Town Council.

Al Gerew stated that on the Town Council agenda, L. Kevin McDonald was up for 3 year reappointment. It was questioned if this was for the Recreation Commission. The Director stated she thought this was for the Budget Board.

Al Gerew questioned how the resignation of Department of Public Works Superintendent Richard Bernardo will affect the Parks & Recreation Department. The Director reported that most of the Parks & Recreation maintenance issues are handled by our current part-time maintenance worker but it will be a great loss for the town losing Richard Bernardo. Richard always responded quickly regarding any necessary issues.

Old Business:

Relay for Life

Sue Sgambatto stated she was requested to attend meeting regarding

an e-mail sent to the Director regarding changes to the set up of the Relay for Life committee. The e-mail stated that members of the Parks & Recreation commission would not be required. Sue reported this was stated to assure that the Recreation commission that the committee has everything under control. Three years ago it was stated that too much responsibility was placed on the Recreation commission. The Director stated the commission does have to be involved to assure procedures for use of the Branch River Park field are adhered to according to zoning requirements and restrictions.

Concerns over the suggested layout changes regarding a large tent in the center of the track were discussed. It was approved as long as no vehicles are allowed in the field area for bringing in tables, chairs, etc.

Smaller tents set up outside the fence were not recommended due to this affecting the outfields. A schedule of the Relay for Life committee meetings was given to the commission. The field permit form was approved by the Director and Commission and will be submitted to zoning. A map of the logistics will be submitted in the future to the Commission for review.

Shippee Park

A scout has completed the picnic tables for the new park. How to secure the tables is being currently investigated. A temporary fix to the Shippee Bridge has been completed but the total bridge replacement will be at a later date. Approval to complete the park now versus after the total bridge replacement has been received. The

contractors will stay away from the new park area and if any damage is caused, they would do the repairs. Assistance with the park design will be sought from the high school CAD students. Another suggestion was made to contact Roots and Shoots.

Sub-committee report-Ordinance-No report

Doors Recreation Center/Roof

The doors and locks have been replaced with Boisclair lock to repair the existing panic hardware being ordered at a cost of approximately \$600.

The Recreation Center roof replacement has been completed over the Columbus Day weekend. Four bids had been received and approval of the appropriation at the last Town Council meeting was received. The lowest bidder was Rick Bucksky over Above Board Contracting of Blackstone, Massachusetts was awarded the bid. With the assistance of Bobby Gautreau moving the antennae back for the alarm, all new gutters were also installed. The chimney was removed since it was no longer in use.

Separate bids were requested for the replacement of the handicap ramp overhang. Since the appropriation for the roof was not enough to cover the ramp overhang, this was to be completed separately. But since the roof came in \$4,000 under budget, this allowed for the funding of the handicap ramp overhang to be completed.

League Budgets/C.I.P.

Letters to the leagues with their budget appropriations were mailed. Since the new appropriation amounts only leave approximately \$1,000 buffer for programming and with the addition of the new youth football league, an increase to the programming line item will be requested as part of this year's budget process. The tennis courts will be part of this year's CIP budget requests.

Spring Lake Beach

Winterization of the Spring Lake Beach buildings is complete, along with the restrooms at Hauser field. A detailed report including income and expenses was reviewed with an \$18,000 profit margin, including this year's expense for \$5,000 for police details. Police details are recommended for July next year. The Director met with a new janitorial supply company today to lower costs. The Director reported on an incident at Spring Lake Beach regarding a lifeguard rescue. This matter was resolved.

Tennis Courts

The tennis court repairs are to be the next project to be focused on.

Youth Football League

The youth football league has made the playoffs. The league was also allowed by the Superintendent's Office to play their last home game at the new football field adjacent to the high school.

Coaches Training

Al Low reported speaking with youth basketball president Roy Carlson. Roy will contact the Parks & Recreation regarding when to schedule training for a few new basketball coaches

Snakes Alive Road Race

The annual road race generated \$2,236.40 net profit with a record number of 89 runners/walkers participating. A road race income/expense report was reviewed by the commission. Thank you letters will be sent to each volunteer and each company who donated.

D.E.M. Trails Grant-No report

The Duck Race

282 ducks were purchased with a profit of \$980 for both the Parks and Recreation Department and the Burrillville Lion's Club. Recreation Commission member Alice Lavigne was a major contributor selling 70 duck tickets.

New Business:

New Programs

A new Yoga program will begin tonight October 20th with a complimentary trial class being held on October 19th.

Country line dancing was introduced on Fridays with 12-15 participants. Ballroom dancing has also resumed on Friday evenings with 10 currently registered. Both programs are taught by our Senior Fitness instructor Fran Golombiewski.

The fundraising account currently has \$3,100 for the Shippee Bridge Park project which required \$2,300 for the grant match, leaving additional funds which can be utilized for another project.

Santa Calling

The Santa Calling program will take place from December 11th through 14th this year.

Christmas Program

-Town Common-will take place December 6th.

-Holiday Party-second annual Parks & Recreation Holiday Party will take place at the Recreation Commission meeting scheduled for December 8th with the BEC Board and program instructors being invited.

Tennis Scholarship

The Director has applied for a full scholarship to attend a conference in February through the U.S.T.A. regarding their Quick Smart Start children's tennis program. They also will review funding options for

start up and development of courts.

Grant

Reported above under Tennis Scholarship

Meeting Adjourned: Motion made David Marcotte. Seconded by Al Gerew. Meeting adjourned at 7:5 p.m. Motion Passed 5-0.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 10, 2008, 6:30 p.m., Burrillville Parks & Recreation Offices, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, RI 02859

Recorded by

Carol L. Conway

Administrative Aide

Burrillville Parks & Recreation Department

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